

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY**

Bay State Gas Company

D.T.E. 06-7

**MOTION OF BAY STATE GAS COMPANY
FOR PROTECTIVE TREATMENT**

Bay State Gas Company ("Bay State") requests that the Department of Telecommunications and Energy (the "Department") grant protection from public disclosure for certain confidential, competitively sensitive and proprietary information submitted in this proceeding, in accordance with G.L. c. 25, § 5D.

On January 27, 2006, Bay State filed with the Department a Petition for Approval of an Agreement between Bay State and Northeast Energy Associates, a Limited Partnership ("NEA") (the "Petition").

Also on January 27, Bay State submitted a Motion for Protective Treatment for a number of confidential exhibits that accompanied the Petition. On March 3, 2006, the Hearing Officer granted protection for certain of the provisions in those exhibits that contained confidential information as to price and other terms. Hearing Officer Ruling on Motion for Protective Order, March 3, 2006.

With this Motion, Bay State seeks protective treatment for:

- Confidential Attachment to the Revised response to information request AG 1-1(A). This response contains Bay State's Confirmation of Short-Term National Gas Transaction with NEA.
- Confidential Attachment to the Revised response to information request AG 1-1(B). This response contains the Bay State North American Energy Standards Board (NAESB) Base Contract for Sale and Purchase of Gas with NEA.

A single copy of the unredacted, confidential version of each of the above documents was filed with the Hearing Officer on April 7, 2006. The confidential portions of these documents contain proprietary and competitively sensitive price and other terms of the gas supply agreements between Bay State and NEA. Those terms have been redacted in the public versions of the documents. These terms were negotiated confidentially between the parties and have not been made public. Public disclosure of these confidential terms would harm the competitive position of Bay State, and could have an adverse impact on Bay State's customers by undermining Bay State's ability to negotiate favorable gas purchases for customers in the future. The Hearing Officer has granted protection for similar price and other terms for documents filed in this proceeding in her Ruling noted above.

THEREFORE, based on the March 3, 2006 Ruling of the Hearing Officer and the standards set forth in that Ruling by which documents filed in Department proceedings may be protected, Bay State requests that the Department protect from public disclosure the redacted portions of the gas supply agreements noted in this Motion.

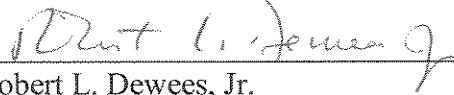
Respectfully submitted,

BAY STATE GAS COMPANY

By its attorneys,



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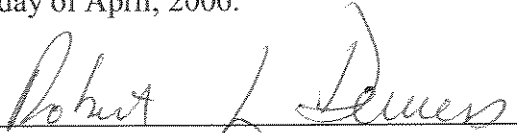
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Dated: April 13, 2006

CERTIFICATION

I certify that I served today a copy of the attached Motion of Bay State Gas Company for Protective Treatment by hand delivery, first class mail postage prepaid or electronically on the Department of Telecommunications and Energy and all parties on the service list on file with the Secretary of the Department of Telecommunications and Energy for this proceeding.

Dated at Boston, Massachusetts this 13th day of April, 2006.


Robert L. Dewees, Jr. *en*